

President's Message
November 11, 2008

Dear Members:

I am pleased to report that the Local 3357 has achieved some significant milestones in the past several months.

- * On August 1, 2008, the proposed 2008-2012 Collective Bargaining Agreement was ratified by a substantial majority with a record of over 75% of the membership participating in the vote.
- * On September 11, 2008, the final results for the election/appointment of the Executive Board, Representatives, Trustees, Web Chairperson and Grievance Chairperson were posted.
- * On October 17-18, 2008 the Local 3357 conducted its annual meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

Thank you for actively participating in the Union and contributing to these milestones. Your participation in responding to questionnaires, voting on the CBA, voting for representatives and participation at the annual meeting is crucial to our continued success.

It was my pleasure to recognize ten individuals that have made particularly noteworthy contributions to the Union during this past year. Each of these individuals was honored at the annual meeting for their extraordinary service. They include:

Meg McCallum: 2008-2012 CBA research assistant and Georgia (right-to-work state) area union representative and organizer

Ken Wood: Retired attorney as of Friday October 17, 2008 – after 23+ years of service, area representative and strong Union supporter

Deanne Robison: Area representative, pre-negotiations meeting Columbus, OH, January 19-20th 2008 and 2008-2012 CBA alternate bargaining representative.

Steve Hofer: Pre-negotiations meeting Columbus, OH, January 19-20, 2008, 2008-2012 CBA alternate bargaining representative, 2008-2012 CBA research assistant and technology research assistant

Melissa Mays: Treasurer and preparer of payroll checks, expense report checks, FUTA return, LM-3 fiduciary report, Form 990 return, quarterly Form 941 returns, LUAFR report and annual bond application

Peter Nickles: 2008-2012 CBA negotiations labor attorney, contract and election ballot tabulator and grievance and discipline labor attorney

Heather Rasmussen: former Area Representative and stand in trustee, current Secretary and annual meeting organizer and 2008-2012 CBA negotiations team member

Roger White: Area Representative, Grievance Chairperson and 2008-2012 CBA negotiations team member

Steve Beres: former Treasurer, current Vice-President and 2008-2012 CBA negotiations team member

John Suda: Webmaster, 2008-2012 CBA negotiations team advisor and counselor and contract and election ballot tabulator

I encourage all of our members to get involved with the Union and look for ways to contribute. There is a great deal of work to be done. We stress unity but not uniformity. We encourage diversity and maturity in approaching the problems that challenge our U.A.W. clients and our legal services plan. Each of us has unique talents and skills that are of benefit to the group. Please continue to share your talents and get involved if you have not done so already.

In closing, let me suggest that there has never been a greater need and call to service. The difficulties facing the domestic auto industry are substantial. These difficulties will no doubt continue to affect our U.A.W. clients and our practice. Hopefully, the industry will be able to weather the storm and adjust; however, these adjustments are largely out of our control. I can only encourage each of our attorney members to continue to provide the best possible representation to our clients and to rise to the reality of managing the demands of more diverse practice areas, stressed clients and the like. I remain dedicated to serving you as President and working with you to help manage these challenges.

Best regards,

Mike Forbes, President